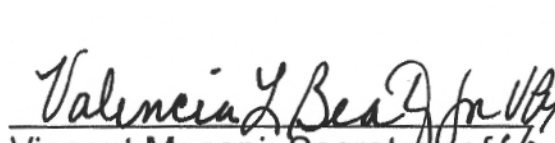
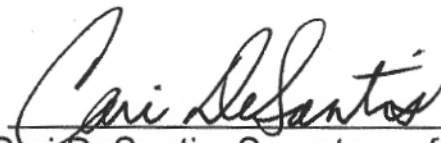
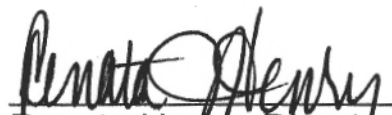
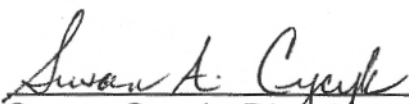


Memorandum of Agreement
Between
The Division of Child Mental Health Services
Of the Department of Services for Children, Youth
And their Families (DSCYF)
And
The Division of Substance Abuse & Mental Health (DSAMH)
Of the Department of Health and Social Services


Vincent Meconi, Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services


Cari DeSantis, Secretary of the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families


Renata Henry, Director of the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

 4/4/03
Susan Cycyk, Director of the Division of Child Mental Health

Effective Date: 6/24/03

This Memorandum of Agreement concerning youth transitioning to adult mental health and substance abuse services is entered into between the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families/Division of Child Mental Health Services and the Division of Health and Social Services/Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health. This agreement governs procedures regarding transitions for youth aging out of the Division of Child Mental Health and needing continued treatment in the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health. This transition must occur by the age of 18, the age at which, per Delaware Law, responsibility for service provisions shifts from Division of Child Mental Health Services to Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health. This agreement provides parameters for this process in compliance with the current legislative mandate.

I. Purpose of Agreement:

Whereas, the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health is responsible for providing substance abuse and mental health services for persons age 18 and older, and

Whereas, the Division of Child Mental Health is responsible for providing substance abuse and mental health services for children and youth under the age of 18 in the State of Delaware.

A. Purpose #1:

To further collaboration between the Division of Child Mental Health Services (DCMHS) within the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Families (DSCYF) and the Division of Substance Abuse & Mental Health (DSAMH) within the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) to cooperate in achieving a seamless process for provision of substance abuse and/or mental health services for youth transitioning to adult services.

B. Purpose #2

To ensure accessibility, continuity of care and a seamless process of transition for youth who have received mental health and substance

abuse treatment services from Division of Child Mental Health and who are determined to require mental health/substance abuse treatment services in the Division of substance Abuse and Mental health are considered to be:

1. clinically indicated
2. agreed to by the youth and/or parents, as may be required.
3. are not otherwise available through insurance coverage or other entitlements.

II. Agreement Structure

- A. The referral for services as an adult, is to be initiated by Division of Child Mental Health Services at the time the youth reaches age 17 years, 6 months and transition planning is to be accomplished prior to the individual's 18th birthday. Those youth determined by the Division of Child Mental health to need transitioning to supervised living arrangements may require referral when the youth reaches 17 years, 6 months. Factors such as insufficient information, admission to DCMHS after 17 years, 6 months, refusal of services, etc may preclude meeting this established timeline.
- B. Application for services in the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health shall be made by the Division of Child Mental Health on behalf of the youth and parents. The Division of Child Mental Health Services will assist the parent and/or youth in making application to the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health if a youth receiving services provided by the Division of Child Mental Health has been determined to continue to need mental health and/or substance abuse treatment services after 18 and the youth does not have other

involved agencies that would more appropriately be responsible to initiate the referral.

- C. The Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health shall consider such application and collaborate with Division of Child Mental Health, the youth, and parents in providing for timely continuation of mental health and/or substance abuse services.

III Responsibilities and Assurances:

DSYCF/DCMHS agrees to:

1. Refer a youth at age seventeen years, six months, who, by history, appears to be eligible for continued mental health/drug/alcohol treatment or for community support services in the DSAMH extended benefits continuum.
2. Complete and send the DSAMH requested referral information to the designated points of contact, to provide notification to other involved agencies, based on a need to know, that a referral has been made to DSAMH
3. Should parent and/or youth not be satisfied with decision made by DSAMH, DCMHS will assist the youth and his/her parent/guardian in initiating an appeal process based on the appeal procedures specified in the DSAMH procedures.

DHSS/DSAMH agrees to:

1. Review the referral received from DCMHS. The Decision regarding eligibility for services will be confirmed within thirty days of receipt of the DCMHS referral. Upon decision, DSAMH will notify DCMHS.

DHSS/DSAMH and DSCYF/DCMHS agree to:

Responsibilities and Assurances:

1. Develop and implement policies and procedures to assure successful transition of youth.
2. Agree to share all relevant information regarding transition planning, necessary to assure accessibility and continuity of care for youth after the 18th birthday.
3. Each division agrees to share in the responsibility for developing the age out transition plan and shall continue to collaborate on developing funding resources, as appropriate, to support age out

transitions.

4. Each division agrees to assign representatives responsible for the monitoring and reviewing of policies and procedures on the transition of aging out youth. These workgroup representatives will meet at least semiannually to review and monitor the procedure process and report to leadership in their respective division.

IV. Amendment and Termination

Both parties may amend this agreement at any time upon mutual consent and signature, and the amendment shall be attached to become a part of the agreement.

This agreement shall be reviewed as necessary and not less than once every five years.

The agreement may be terminated by either party, for any reason with ninety days written notice to the corresponding Department's Secretary and Division Director.